

The Pivotal Chapter of the Bible

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Introduction

1. God has intervened in human history in a marvelous way.
2. Acts chapter 2 is pivotal to an understanding of God's eternal plan.

I. Before Acts Chapter 2

- A. The Israelites—God's chosen people
 1. Chosen by God (Gen. 12:1-3; Ex. 19:3-6; Deut. 14:2)
 2. God was faithful and committed to His promises (1 Kgs. 8:22-24, 56).
- B. The promised kingdom
 1. The Prophets (Dan. 2:36-45; Isa. 2:1-3)
 2. John the Baptist (Matt. 3:1-3)
 3. Jesus (Matt. 4:17; 16:13-20; Mark 9:1)
- C. The promised Holy Spirit
 1. The Prophets (Joel 2:28)
 2. Jesus (John 14:15-18; 15:26-27; 16:5-15; Acts 1:4-8)

II. The Events of Acts Chapter 2

- A. The Holy Spirit poured out (Acts 2:1-4, 33)
- B. The empowerment of the apostles (Acts 1:4-8)
 1. Speaking in tongues (Acts 2:1-4)
 2. Other signs and wonders (Acts 2:43)
- C. The Gospel (the Word of the Lord) was preached (Acts 2:22-39)
- D. The establishment of the church (Acts 2:47)
 1. The church promised in the Old Testament prophecies
 2. The church promised by Jesus
 3. The mystery revealed (Eph. 3:1-6)

III. Looking Back at Acts Chapter 2

- A. The apostles saw it as "the beginning" (Acts 11:15)
 1. The beginning of the church, the kingdom
 2. The beginning of the apostles' ministry (Luke 24:46-49; Heb. 2:1-4; Acts 1)
- B. The kingdom in reality
 1. References to its existence (Col. 1:13-14; Rev. 1:5-6, 9)
- C. The church, God's chosen people
 1. Chosen by God (Tit. 2:11-14; 1 Pet. 2:1-10)
 2. Called to be faithful (Rev. 2:10)
 3. The promised home (Phil. 3:20-21; John 14:1-3)

Conclusion

1. The people of God in the centuries prior to that glorious day recorded in Acts chapter 2 would have looked forward with great anticipation to the promised event.
2. The people of God in the 21st century can now look back with deep reflection.
3. The church of Christ can also look forward with great anticipation to another promised event (Acts 1:9-11).